

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the pending claims of this application, including any amendments made by this paper, follows below:

1. (Currently Amended) A binder comprising:
  - a spine having a length extending in a longitudinal direction;
  - a pair of covers pivotally coupled to opposite edges of said spine; and
  - a storage component located on an outer surface of the spine, said storage component defining a storage cavity therein for receiving loose articles; and ~~including~~  
an access door pivotally coupled to said storage compartment that is pivotable about an axis that extends generally parallel to said spine to provide access to said storage cavity, said access door having a length extending in said longitudinal direction that is less than said length of said spine.
2. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said axis is spaced away from said spine.
3. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component includes a pair of side walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine and generally parallel to each other, the side walls being generally fixedly and nonremovably coupled to said spine.
4. (Original) The binder of claim 3 wherein said storage component further includes a pair of end walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine and to said side walls.
5. (Original) The binder of claim 4 wherein said storage component further includes a backing wall oriented generally perpendicular to said side walls and to said end wall and generally parallel to said spine, wherein said storage component includes an access opening which is located in said backing wall.

6. (Original) The binder of claim 5 wherein said door is movable between a closed position wherein said door generally covers said access opening and an open position wherein said door generally does not cover said access opening.

7. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component extends generally the entire length of said spine.

8. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component includes internal dividers dividing said storage component into a series of sub-compartments.

9. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component is generally made of generally transparent material such that any contents of said storage component are visible from outside said storage component.

10. (Original) The binder of claim 1 further including a binding mechanism located on an inner surface of said binder.

11. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component is at least partially defined by said outer surface of said spine.

12. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said spine and said covers are generally flat, planar components and are generally rectangular in front view.

13. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component includes a backing wall extending generally parallel to and spaced apart from said spine and wherein said pivot axis is located closer to said backing wall than to said spine.

14. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component is fixedly and non-removably coupled to said spine.

15. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said axis is spaced away from said spine in a direction perpendicular to said spine.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component includes a pair of side walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine and generally parallel to each other, the side walls being generally fixedly and nonremovably coupled to said spine, a pair of end walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine and to said side walls, and a backing wall oriented generally perpendicular to said side walls and to said end wall and generally parallel to said spine, wherein said backing wall includes an access opening, and wherein said door is movable between a closed position wherein said door generally covers said access opening and an open position wherein said door generally does not cover said access opening.

18. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage component includes a wall generally spaced away from said spine such that said storage cavity is generally located between said wall and said spine, and wherein said wall includes an access opening, and wherein said door is movable between a closed position wherein said door generally covers said access opening and an open position wherein said door generally does not cover said access opening.

19. (Original) The binder of claim 1 wherein said binder includes an binding mechanism located on an inner surface thereof, and wherein said binder is movable to a closed position wherein said front and rear covers are generally parallel and facing each other with said binding mechanism located therebetween, and wherein said outer surface is on an opposite side of said spine relative to said inner surface.

20. (Currently Amended) A binder composing:  
a spine;  
a pair of covers pivotally coupled to opposite edges of said spine; and

a storage component located on an outer surface of said spine, said storage component defining a storage cavity therein for receiving loose articles, said storage component including a wall generally spaced away from said spine such that said storage cavity is generally located between said wall and said spine, and wherein said wall includes an access opening; ; and  
~~wherein said storage component includes~~ a door pivotally coupled to said storage compartment and being pivotable ~~that is movable~~ between a closed position wherein said door generally covers said access opening and an open position wherein said door generally does not cover said access opening.

21. (Currently Amended) The binder of claim 20 wherein said door is ~~pivotaly~~ pivotable about an axis that extends generally parallel to said spine.

22. (Currently Amended) A binder comprising:  
a generally flat, planar spine;  
a pair of covers pivotally coupled to opposite edges of said spine; and  
a storage component located on an outer surface of said spine, said storage component defining a storage cavity therein for receiving loose articles, said storage component including a pair of side walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine, a pair of end walls oriented generally perpendicular to said spine and to said side walls, and a backing wall oriented generally parallel to said spine, said storage component including an access opening located in at least one of said side walls, said end walls or said backing wall to provide access to said storage cavity, said storage component further including an access door that is pivotaly coupled to at least one or said side walls, said end walls or said backing wall and is pivotable about an axis extending generally parallel to said spine to selectively cover said access opening, said axis being spaced apart from said spine.

23. (Original) A binder comprising:  
a spine having a length;  
a pair of covers pivotally coupled to opposite edges of said spine; and

a storage component fixedly coupled to an outer surface of the spine, said storage component defining a storage cavity therein for receiving loose articles, said storage component including an access door that is pivotable about an axis that extends generally parallel to said spine to provide access to said storage cavity, said access door having a length less than said length of said spine.

24. (New) The binder of claim 1 wherein said storage compartment includes a backing wall extending generally parallel to and spaced apart from said spine in a lateral direction, and wherein said pivot axis is spaced apart from said spine and from said backing wall in said lateral direction.

25. (New) The binder of claim 1 wherein said spine is a generally flat, planar component.

26. (New) The binder of claim 1 wherein said door has a length of no more than about 62.5% than the length of said spine.

27. (New) The binder of claim 20 wherein said storage compartment includes a backing wall extending generally parallel to and spaced apart from said spine in a lateral direction, and wherein said pivot axis is spaced apart from said spine and from said backing wall in said lateral direction.

28. (New) The binder of claim 20 wherein said spine is a generally flat, planar component.

29. (New) The binder of claim 20 wherein said storage compartment extends generally the entire length of said spine.

30. (New) The binder of claim 20 wherein said door has a length of no more than about 62.5% than the length of said spine.

31. (New) The binder of claim 20 wherein said spine has a length extending in a longitudinal direction and wherein the access door has a length extending in the longitudinal direction that is less than the length of the spine.

32. (New) The binder of claim 22 wherein said storage compartment includes a backing wall extending generally parallel to and spaced apart from said spine in a lateral direction, and wherein said pivot axis is spaced apart from said backing wall in said lateral direction.

33. (New) The binder of claim 22 wherein said spine has a length extending in a longitudinal direction and wherein the access door has a length extending in the longitudinal direction that is less than the length of the spine.

34. (New) The binder of claim 33 wherein said door has a length of no more than about 62.5% than the length of said spine.

35. (New) The binder of claim 23 wherein said storage compartment includes a backing wall extending generally parallel to and spaced apart from said spine in a lateral direction, and wherein said pivot axis is spaced apart from said spine and from said backing wall in said lateral direction.

36. (New) The binder of claim 23 wherein said spine is a generally flat, planar component.

37. (New) The binder of claim 23 wherein said axis is spaced away from said spine.

38. (New) The binder of claim 23 wherein said door has a length of no more than about 62.5% than the length of said spine.